

Housing Authority - County of Los Angeles

July 29, 2003

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: *Bobbette A. Glover*
for Carlos Jackson, Executive Director

SUBJECT: SECTION 8 UTILIZATION AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

This is to advise you that the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) has had a very successful year administering the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. Currently, 100% of our allocated vouchers are being utilized, representing over 20,000 assisted households. This accomplishment has been achieved by considerable preparation and planning.

While this is good news, high utilization affects areas of program administration that include:

- Waiting List Movement ~ HACoLA's waiting list contains over 125,000 families. HACoLA's high utilization affords almost no movement on the waiting list and the waiting period for households to receive assistance is indefinite. Consequently, the number of telephone and written inquiries that you receive will increase.
- Case Management Requirements ~ HUD requires housing authorities to perform ongoing maintenance activities for all Section 8 cases, including annual eligibility reexaminations, housing quality inspections, and detailed reporting on each household member. HACoLA has reallocated resources and shifted the labor pool in order to focus on these and other HUD maintenance requirements.
- Portability ~ Portability is a Section 8 provision that permits assisted households to move from one housing authority jurisdiction to another. HUD requires receiving housing authorities to accept and maintain these transfers regardless of overall utilization. Due to a recent surge in portability activity, the number of incoming portable vouchers now exceeds HACoLA's turnover by over 200 vouchers per month, further affecting waiting list movement and stretching resources.

Hopefully this information will provide you with some background to enable you to respond to constituent inquiries. If there is any additional information you require, or clarification on any of the above, please contact me at (323) 890-7400, or Bobbette A. Glover, Assistant Executive Director, at (323) 890-7402.

CJ:RLC:CSD
BOS/Section 8 Utilization

c: Each Deputy